

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants :	Andreas RINKE et al.)	Confirmation No. 6203
)	
Appln. No. :	10/726,642)	Group Art Unit: 3651
)	
Filed :	December 4, 2003)	Examiner: Unknown
)	
For :	MULTIFUNCTIONAL CONVEYING DRUM		

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit the following documents for the Examiner's consideration.

Applicants submit a copy of a European Search Report dated April 23, 2003 conducted in European Patent Application No. 020 27 212.6-2313, which is a counterpart of the above-captioned application. In particular, the European Examiner noted:

- (1) European Patent Application No. 1 138 215 published October 4, 2001 as an "X" category document (i.e., a document of particular relevance when considered alone). The European Examiner noted the entire document as pertinent to claims 1 – 5, 10 – 12, and 14 – 16 of the European application;
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 3,142,372 issued to WIESE July 28, 1964 as an "X" category document. In particular, the European Examiner noted column 1, line 36

– column 2, line 40; claim 1; and Figure 1 as relevant to claims 1, 2, and 14 – 16 of the European application;

(3) U.S. Patent No. 4,913,170 issued to CONTI April 3, 1990 as an “A” category document (i.e., technological background). In particular, the European Examiner noted column 2, line 40 – column 3, line 28; and the Figures as relevant to claims 1 and 16 of the European application;

(4) German Patent Application No. 42 42 326 published June 24, 1993 as an “A” category document. In particular, the European Examiner noted the abstract and figures as pertinent to claims 1 and 16 of the European application. For the examiner’s convenience, Applicants submit herewith a copy of U.K. Patent Application No. 2 262 428 published May 23, 1993, which is identified by the Annex to the Search Report as an English language patent family member of the above-cited German application;

(5) European Patent Application No. 0 577 061 published January 5, 1994 as an “A” category document. In particular, the European Examiner noted column 7, line 51 – column 11, line 6; and the Figures as relevant to claims 1 and 16 of the European application. For the examiner’s convenience, Applicants submit herewith a copy of U.S. Patent No. 5,402,802 issued to KAKUICHI et al. April 4, 1995, which is identified by the Annex to the Search Report as a U.S. patent family member of the above-cited European application;

(6) German Patent Application No. 41 34 633 published April 22, 1993 as an

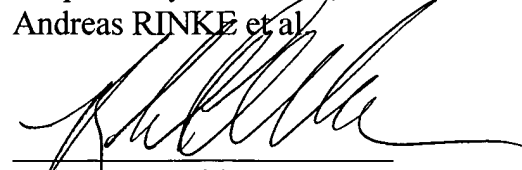
“A” category document and as a “D” category document (i.e., a document discussed in the application). In particular, this document is discussed in the instant application beginning in paragraph [0007]. Further, the European Examiner noted the entire document as relevant to claims 1 and 16 of the European application. Moreover, for the Examiner’s convenience, Applicants submit herewith a copy of U.S. Patent No. 5,279,406 issued to PAWELKO et al. January 18, 1994, which is identified by the Annex to the Search Report as a U.S. patent family member of the above-cited International publication.

Each of the above-cited documents are listed on the enclosed completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to indicate such consideration by returning a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form with the first official communication.

Moreover, copies of the European Search Report and of the cited non-U.S. patent documents are being submitted herewith. However, pursuant to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office’s decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R 1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the cited/listed U.S. patents and U.S. published patent applications are not enclosed herewith. Moreover, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Should there be any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Andreas RINKE et al.



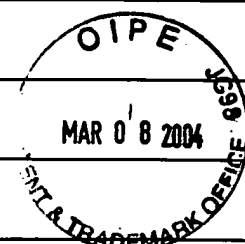
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Form PTO-1449	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Atty. Docket No. P24369	Serial No. 10/726,642
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant Andreas RINKE et al.	
		Filing Date December 4, 2003	Group 3651

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	3 1 4 2	3 7 2	07/28/64 WIESE			
	4 9 1 3	1 7 0	04/03/90 CONTI			
	5 4 0 2	8 0 2	04/04/95 KAKIUCHI et al.			
	5 2 7 9	4 0 6	01/18/94 PAWELKO et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
1 1 3 8	2 1 5	10/04/01 E.P.O.			
4 2 4 2	3 2 6	06/24/93 GERMANY			
2 2 6 2	4 2 8	06/23/93 UNITED KINGDOM			
0 5 7 7	0 6 1	01/05/94 E.P.O.			
4 1 3 4	6 6 3	04/22/93 GERMANY			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.